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Karen & David Bagwell

Feb 20, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

Limited Incomes such as ours cannot stand "off-the-cuff" increases such as this one, the way it has been put forth as a "Done Deal".... From what we've heard & seen so far, meetings on the matter or not will not affect the pre-planned & charted with the Commission increases.....!!! In our situations, Duke-Systems-Wide, the "OVER-65 (We're 71 & 68) Elders should be considered! We had no choice on the matter of changing out *ALL* METERS "for cost cutting purposes", which has, obviously, backfired & caused Cost increasing realities; PLUS, the Ridiculous POWER PLANT snafoooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!

Sincerely,
Karen & David Bagwell

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